GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4145
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Retention of Birth Certificate by Schools
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any instructions/directions/guidelines to the schools wherein they have been asked to keep original copy of the birth certificate at the time of admission of a child in KG, Nursery, class first etc. and not to return the certificate even at the time of leaving the school;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the parents could get back original birth certificates of their children from schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) to (c): Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has framed rules in its Examination Bye-Laws for admission to elementary education, the age of a child shall be determined on the basis of the birth certificate issued in accordance with the provisions of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act,1886 or on the basis of such other documents, as may be prescribed, as stipulated in section 14(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009. Schools may retain the Birth Certificate till such time it is required for verification purpose and return to the parents once the verification process is complete. Education being in the concurrent list of the constitution, majority of schools come under the administrative control of respective State Governments and it is for them to instruct Schools with regard to return the original birth certificate to the parents.